

UC-Berkeley Jewish orgs. condemn 'Zionist tears,' other remarks amid student gov showdown

The student government had previously stripped 14 candidates-elect of their positions, alleging campaign finance misconduct.

Students reportedly said “f*ck Zionists” and claimed that the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) teaches American police to murder black people at a student government meeting.





Adam Sabes | Writer for FOX News

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Jewish groups at the University of California-Berkeley are condemning statements like “f*ck Zionists” and the claim that the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) teaches American police to murder black people. The statements were reportedly used by multiple students during a student government meeting.

The Associated Students of the University of California (ASUC) held a regularly scheduled meeting April 17, discussing the disqualification of 14 elected candidates from the Student Action party slate of **candidates**, which had won a preliminary majority of the senate and executive seats, according to *The Daily Californian*. The candidates were **disqualified** for allegedly misconstruing and neglecting to report campaign finances.

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A **statement** signed by 12 Jewish groups at UC-Berkeley said that some Jewish students spoke out about the disqualification of a senator-elect who is Jewish, and how they feel that some representation has been lost.

However, some students used the public comment section of the **meeting** to make remarks that the group deemed anti-Semitic. However, the student groups said that a former senator claimed to be hearing just “white tears” and “Zionist tears” and was met with applause and someone shouting “f*ck Zionists.”

Campus Reform could confirm the use of the phrases "white tears" and "Zionist tears" during the meeting but could not independently confirm that they were said by a former senator. *Campus Reform* could not independently confirm whether anyone shouted "f*ck Zionists."

One student leader claimed that the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) taught American police to murder black people and suggested that having friendships with Zionists means abetting oppression, slavery, and the prison-industrial complex.

"Using Zionism as a code for Judaism, and subsequently conflating this with white supremacy, is completely ignorant of how white supremacy is founded on anti-Semitism and victimizes Jews," the groups said, according to ***The Algemeiner***.

[RELATED: Socialists, pro-Palestine students oppose former Israeli general teaching Israeli defense course]

Nathan Bentolila, a student at UC-Berkeley and president of Tikvah: Students for Israel, told *Campus Reform* that he was planning on going to the meeting, but had to study beforehand and was watching it on the live stream.

When Bentolila saw such language being used, he "decided that it was important for me to attend this meeting."

He described the comments as "very hurtful" and "quite upsetting that this is happening in our student government, that this level of over and open anti-Semitism is happening in 2019 [at the] student government of UC Berkeley, I thought was pretty sad. And the fact that no one really said a word, was also quite upsetting that this was allowed to go on, and nothing happened."

In a message to the campus community, the UC-Berkeley Chancellor Carol Christ said that she has been "made aware" of what "appear to have been disturbing expressions of bias" at the ASUC meeting.

"Even as we seek to more fully understand what was said, I want to make clear that the University's administration condemns bias, including racism, anti-

Semitism and other forms of prejudice, on this campus and beyond,” the chancellor said.

[RELATED: EXCLUSIVE VIDEO: Anti-Israel internship can get you credit at Syracuse]

Rena Nasar, who serves as Tri-State campus director and managing director of campus affairs for pro-Israel group StandWithUs, told *Campus Reform* that the organization is proud of the Jewish students at UC-Berkeley for coming together.

"We are proud of Berkeley Jewish students for uniting despite their political differences and standing up for their community," Nasar said. "While it is good that the administration responded, their statement should have been more direct about why the comments at the ASUC meeting were anti-Semitic. Unfortunately, this anti-Semitism is part of a long history of hate at UC Berkeley and it is clear that more must be done to educate the student body about why such rhetoric is unacceptable."

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The BSD License Problem

by Richard Stallman

See “How to choose a license for your own work” for general recommendations about choosing a license for your work.

The two major categories of free software license are copyleft and non-copyleft. Copyleft licenses such as the GNU GPL insist that modified versions of the program must be free software as well. Non-copyleft licenses do not insist on this. We recommend copyleft, because it protects freedom for all users, but non-copylefted software can still be free software, and useful to the free software community.

There are many variants of simple non-copyleft free software licenses, such as the Expat license, FreeBSD license, X10 license, the X11 license, and the two BSD (Berkeley Software Distribution) licenses. Most of them are equivalent except for details of wording, but the license used for BSD until 1999 had a special problem: the “obnoxious BSD advertising clause”. It said that every advertisement mentioning the software must include a particular sentence:

3. All advertising materials mentioning features or use of this software must display the following acknowledgement:
This product includes software developed by the University of California, Berkeley and its contributors.

Initially the obnoxious BSD advertising clause was used only in the Berkeley Software Distribution. That did not cause any particular problem, because including one sentence in an ad is not a great practical difficulty.

If other developers who used BSD-like licenses had copied the BSD advertising clause verbatim—including the sentence that refers to the University of California—then they would not have made the problem any bigger.

But, as you might expect, other developers did not copy the clause verbatim. They changed it, replacing “University of California” with their own institution or their own names. The result is a plethora of licenses, requiring a plethora of different sentences.

When people put many such programs together in an operating system, the result is a serious problem. Imagine if a software system required 75 different sentences, each one naming a different author or group of authors. To advertise that, you would need a full-page ad.

This might seem like extrapolation ad absurdum, but it is actual fact. In a 1997 version of NetBSD, I counted 75 of these sentences. (Fortunately NetBSD has decided to stop adding them, and to remove those it could.)

To address this problem, in my “spare time” I talk with developers who have used BSD-style licenses, asking them if they would please remove the advertising clause. Around 1996 I spoke with the developers of FreeBSD about this, and they decided to remove the advertising clause from all of their own code. In May 1998 the developers of Flickr, at the University of Utah, removed this clause.

Dean Hal Varian at the University of California took up the cause, and championed it with the administration. In June 1999, after two years of discussions, the University of California removed this clause from the license of BSD.

Thus, there is now a new BSD license which does not contain the advertising clause. Unfortunately, this does not eliminate the legacy of the advertising clause: similar clauses are still present in the licenses of many packages which are not part of BSD. The change in license for BSD has no effect on the other packages which imitated the old BSD license; only the developers who made them can change them.

But if they followed Berkeley's lead before, maybe Berkeley's change in policy will convince some of them to change. It's worth asking.

So if you have a favorite package which still uses the BSD license with the advertising clause, please ask the maintainer to look at this web page, and consider making the change.

And if you want to release a program as non-copylefted free software, please don't use the advertising clause. Thus, instead of copying the BSD license from some released package—which might still have the old version of the license in it—please use one of the other permissive licenses, such as Expat or FreeBSD.

You can also help spread awareness of the issue by not using the term “BSD-style”, and not saying “the BSD license” which implies there is only one. You see, when people refer to all non-copyleft free software licenses as “BSD-style licenses”, some new free software developer who wants to use a non-copyleft free software license might take for granted that the place to get it is from BSD. He or she might copy the license with the advertising clause, not by specific intention, just by chance.

If you would like to cite one specific example of a non-copyleft license, and you have no particular preference, please pick an example which has no particular problem. For instance, if you talk about “X11-style licenses”, you will encourage people to copy the license from X11, which avoids the advertising clause for certain, rather than take a risk by randomly choosing one of the BSD licenses.

Or you could mention the non-copyleft license which we recommend over the other non-copyleft licenses: the Apache 2.0 license, which has a clause to prevent treachery with patents.

When you want to refer specifically to one of the BSD licenses, please always state which one: the “original BSD license” or the “Modified BSD license”.

Later a third BSD license variant was introduced, with only the first two of the original BSD license's four clauses. We call it the “FreeBSD license.” It is a lax, noncopyleft free license, compatible with the GNU GPL, much like the modified BSD license.

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